



Application Serial No. 09/663,250
Attorney's Docket No. 015US1

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of)

David Matsuura et al.)

App. Ser. No. 09/663,250)

Filed: September 15, 2000)

For: ANNULOTOMY)
CLOSURE DEVICE)

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Daniel Davis

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the U.S. Mail, First Class, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patent, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 20, 2003

Signature: _____

Jonathan D. Spangler

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The references cited on the attached forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. Also provided are the International Search Report (3 pages) and Written Opinion (4 pages) from International Patent Application No. PCT/US00/25678 (now abandoned), which corresponds to the above-identified US Patent Application. It is respectfully requested that the cited references, International Search Report, and Written Opinion be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear

among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this supplemental IDS and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicants believe that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-2040 to NuVasive, Inc. As previously authorized, the Commissioner may deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
NUVASIVE, INC.

By: 

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March 20, 2003